

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9033

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 17366

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PGOV, GW, WB, US, FR, UK

SUBJECT: QUESTION OF EXTENSION TO BERLIN OF BACTERIOLOGICAL AND TOXIN WEAPONS CONVENTION

1. IN FULL BONN GROUP AND TRIPARTITE DISCUSSIONS GOING BACK TO SEPTEMBER, BONN GROUP REPS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING QUESTION OF POSSIBLE EXTENSION OF CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCK-PILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL AND TOXIN WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION (HEREAFTER REFERRED TO AS "CONVENTION"). AT TRIPARTITE DISCUSSION NOVEMBER 29 OCCASIONED BY FRG EXPRESSION OF HOPE THAT ALLIES COULD QUICKLY RESOLVE ISSUE, FRENCH, UK, AND US REPS PRESENTED RESPECTIVE CONCLUSIONS AND POSITIONS. FRENCH AND US REPS EXPRESSED CONVICTION THAT EXTENSION WAS INAPPROPRIATE, PRINCIPALLY BECAUSE THE CONVENTION IS A DEFENSE-RELATED TREATY WHOSE CONCERN WAS EXCLUSIVELY SECURITY. EXTENSION WOULD CONSEQUENTLY BE INCONSISTENT WITH ALLIED RESERVED RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES. UK REP FAVORED EXTENSION, SAYING NON-EXTENSION WOULD CAUSE PROBLEMS WITH THE GERMANS, AND

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ARGUING THAT UK ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE IN ARMS

CONTROL AGREEMENTS TO UNIVERSALITY.

2. COMMENT: WE CONVINCED THIS IS CLEAR CASE WHERE
EXTENSION SHOULD NOT BE APPROVED BY ALLIES, REGARDLESS
OF GERMAN DESIRES, AND WOULD WISH TO BE ABLE TO INFORM
ALLIES AND FRG NEXT WEEK THAT THIS IS DEFINITIVE US
POSITION. WE WOULD THEN ENVISAGE DRAFTING AND ISSUING
IN BERLIN OF SHORT BK/L SAYING THAT THE CONVENTION
CANNOT BE EXTENDED. IN ORDER TO AVOID LEAVING A GAP
IN THE UNIVERSAL COVERAGE OF THE ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS,
HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT CONSIDERATION MIGHT BE GIVEN
TO DEVELOPING A PROCEDURE WHEREBY ALLIES THEMSELVES
COULD BRING THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONVENTION INTO EFFECT
IN WSB. WHILE IT IS APPARENT THAT THIS WOULD BE
DIFFICULT AS LONG AS ANY OF THE THREE ALLIES IS NOT
PARTY TO THE CONVENTION, WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S
AND USBER'S CONSIDERATION OF AND COMMENTS ON THIS
POSSIBILITY.
HILLENBRAND

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30 JUN 2005

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